## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

:

ROBERT L. DeSHETLER, JR., individually and on behalf of others

**similarly situated** 966 Clarion Avenue

Holland, Ohio 43528

ELIZABETH S. WESLEY, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated :

2267 Dean Rd.

Temperance, Michigan 48182

CYNTHIA ALLEN

5135 Barlingame Dr. Case Nos.: 3:18-cv-78 Toledo, Ohio 43615 : 3:18-cv-199

**DARIAN BANKS** : Judge Jack Zouhary

716 N. Washington Ave.

Scranton, Pennsylvania 18509-3218 : **FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT** with

**Class Action Allegations** 

DAVID P. BEAKAS :

1423 Mill Creek Lane (Jury Demand Endorsed Hereon)

Waterville, Ohio 43566 :

GREGORY BEAUDOIN :

3500 145th St.

Toledo, Ohio 43611 :

ROBERT BEDARD :

861 Village Parkway

Waterville, Ohio 43566 :

LINDA BURKHALTER :

3743 Willow Run Toledo, Ohio 43607

KENNETH J. BURZYNSKI :

3592 W. Yankee Rd. Sand Creek, MI 49279 :

JOSEPH A. CANTWELL :

355 Wolf Creek Ct.

Northwood, Ohio 43619	:
<b>DELORES COLEMAN CARTER</b> 5751 Crossbrooke Lane Waterville, Ohio 43566	:
THOMAS CASPER 8329 Water Park Dr.	:
Holland, Ohio 43528	:
MICHAEL J. COLE 30241 Cedar Valley Dr. Northwood, Ohio 43619	:
RITA A. COPE 4648 Commonwealth Toledo, Ohio 43612	:
CYNTHIA CROSS 4035 Ariel Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43623	:
JOHN A. DANDAR 731 Yoder Rd.	:
Curtice, Ohio 43412	:
JAMES M. DeVOL 2312 Brookridge Dr. Toledo, Ohio 43613	:
MARY A. FLISNIK 5120 Secor Rd. #304 Toledo, Ohio 43623	:
JAMES E. GROVES 13714 Lenore Dr. Hudson, Michigan 49247	:
PAMELA HEAMS 8541 Sandra Kay Dr. Lambertville, Michigan 48144	:
EDWARD HOLEY 7939 Summerfield Rd. Lambertville, Michigan 48144	:

**EVA HOLSTON-COLE** 6055 Fallen Timbers Lane Maumee, Ohio 43537 JEFFERY D. HOWELL 6847 N. Fredericksburg Dr. Sylvania, Ohio 43560 **CYNTHIA P. JAKAB** 9646 Belmont Circle Whitehouse, Ohio 43571 **ROBERT L. JOHNSON** 1780 Linzden Pl. Temperance, Michigan 48182 KRIST M. KALLIL 5713 Flanders Rd. Toledo, Ohio 43623 JOHN J. KLOSOWSKI 2314 Fawn Hollow Rd. Toledo, Ohio 43617 LENORA LAMBRIGHT 2720 Hoehler Dr. Toledo, OH 43606 **DORA MARTINEZ** 2108 Sheffield Pl. Northwood, Ohio 43619 LEON McDANIEL 520 S. Monroe Montpelier, Ohio 43543 HENRIETTA L. MEFFERD Co. Rd. V 2447 Liberty Ct, Ohio 43532 WILLIE R. MILLER 523 Hackett Rd. Toledo, Ohio 43610 MARK S. MILLER 10971 Thompson Hwy

Blissfield, Michigan 49228 VASIL NEDESKI 4023 Monroe St. Toledo, Ohio 43606 LEROY OLSON 11700 County Road 6 Delta, Ohio 43515 AHMAD M. ORRA 9623 Bishopswood Ln. Perrysburg, Ohio 43551 PAMELA R. PATTERSON 1030 Woodland Ave. Toledo, Ohio 43607 JOHN P. PENROD 527 South Avenue Toledo, Michigan 43609 **RONALD PETERSON** 9360 Saint Angela Way Sylvania, Ohio 43560 DONALD REED 3416 Angela Pl. Toledo, Ohio 43609 THOMAS A. RICKMAN 1028 Patchen Rd. Oregon, Ohio 43616 **RANDY ROOKS** 947 Orchard Dr. Rossford, Ohio 43460 STEPHEN J. SANFORD 1037 Feltis Temperance, Michigan 48182 HILLARY E. SCOTT 1939 Mount Vernon Toledo, Ohio 43607

STEVEN JAMES SEEGERT 17330 LuLu Petersburg, Michigan 49270 **DAVID RAYMOND STEFFES** 1602 Roman Drive Monroe, Michigan 48162 **JEFFERY STRONG** 5580 Forest Green Dr. Ottawa Hills, Ohio 43615 WILLIAM J. SZYMANSKI 4554 286th St. Toledo, Ohio 43611 **LARRY TATUM** 2302 Secor Toledo, Ohio 43606 RONALD L. VANBUSKIRK 4848 Marble Cliff Blvd. Sylvania, Ohio 43560 **CAROLE WAWRZYNIAK** 6427 Julianna Lane Whitehouse, Ohio 43571 JOHN A. WISNIEWSKI 8984 S.E. Hawks Nest Court Hobe Sound, Florida 33455 JERRI WISNIEWSKI 8984 S.E. Hawks Nest Court Hobe Sound, Florida 33455 FREDERICK J. WOZNIAK JR. 9020 Castlebury Dr. Temperance, Michigan 48182 PEGGY A. ZIMMERMAN 1066 Fire Creek Ct. Temperance, Michigan 48182 **DARLENE COLE** 1714 Unity Ct.

Toledo, Ohio 43614 :

JOSEF C. DUBILZIG :

238 Windsor Dr.

Rossford, Ohio 43460 ::

BARRY HOWARD SR.

2244 Maple Wood Toledo, Ohio 43620

**VICENTE JUAREZ** 

1304 Superior St. Genoa, Ohio 43430

**GEORGIA TISDALE** 

4841 Flanders Rd. Toledo, Ohio 43623

**KEVIN STAHL** 

1934 Watts Avenue Oregon, Ohio 43616

RICHARD CASSADY II

6721 CR 21 Risingsun, Ohio 43457

**INGRID HAYNES** 

922 Searles Rd. Toledo, OH 43607

**SHARON RIGER-LONG** 

5207 Rowland Rd. Toledo, Ohio 43613

NIKOLA NEDESKI

2647 Edgar St. Toledo, Ohio 43613

Plaintiffs,

v.

**FCA US LLC** 

c/o Chris Pardi, General Counsel 1000 Chrysler Drive Auburn Hills, MI 48326 Statutory agent: CT Corporation System 4400 Easton Commons Way, Suite 125 Columbus, OH 43219

and

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA c/o Dennis Williams, President Solidarity House 8000 E. Jefferson Ave. Detroit, MI 48214

and

UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA, REGION 2B c/o Rich Rankin, Director 1691 Woodlands Dr. Maumee, Ohio 43232

Defendants.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. Plaintiffs, all individuals who were induced to "retire" from Chrysler to work at nominally independent suppliers and fired when Chrysler unilaterally abandoned the arrangement, and bring this action against FCA US LLC and their labor union, the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (the "UAW"), for breach of a collective bargaining agreement pursuant to the Labor Management Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. § 185, ("LMRA") and against their labor union, the UAW International Union, for violations of its duty of fair representation by accepting bribes to bargain away Plaintiffs' jobs, pursuant to Section 301 of the LMRA (codified at 29 U.S.C. § 185) and, in the alternative, against the UAW for its breach if its independent duty of fair representation. In addition, Plaintiffs bring allegations of discrimination based upon age under Ohio law.
- 2. Plaintiffs First Amended Complaint is filed as a matter of right pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 15(a)(1)(B) as it is made within 21 days after the service of motions pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 12 (ECF ## 13, 15).
  - 3. No previous amended complaint has been filed in this action.

### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff Robert L. DeShetler Jr. is an individual residing in Holland, Lucas County, Ohio. Robert L. DeShetler Jr. is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 5. Plaintiff Elizabeth S. Wesley is an individual residing in Temperance, Monroe County, Michigan. Elizabeth S. Wesley is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- Plaintiff Cynthia Allen is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.
   Cynthia Allen is a citizen and resident of Ohio.

- 7. Plaintiff Darian Banks is an individual residing in Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. Darian Banks is a citizen and resident of Pennsylvania.
- 8. Plaintiff David P. Beakas is an individual residing in Waterville, Lucas County, Ohio. David P. Beakas is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 9. Plaintiff Gregory Beaudoin is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Gregory Beaudoin is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- Plaintiff Robert Bedard is an individual residing in Waterville, Lucas County,
   Ohio. Robert Bedard is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 11. Plaintiff Linda Burkhalter is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Linda Burkhalter is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 12. Plaintiff Kenneth J. Burzynski is an individual residing in Sand Creek, Lenawee County, Michigan. Kenneth J. Burzynski is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 13. Plaintiff Joseph A. Cantwell is an individual residing in Northwood, Wood County, Ohio. Joseph A. Cantwell is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 14. Plaintiff Delores Coleman Carter is an individual residing in Waterville, Lucas County, Ohio. Delores Coleman Carter is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 15. Plaintiff Thomas Casper is an individual residing in Holland, Lucas County, Ohio.

  Thomas Casper is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 16. Plaintiff Michael J. Cole is an individual residing in Northwood, Wood County,Ohio. Michael J. Cole is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 17. Plaintiff Rita A. Cope is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Rita A. Cope is a citizen and resident of Ohio.

- 18. Plaintiff Cynthia Cross is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.

  Cynthia Cross is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 19. Plaintiff John A. Dandar is an individual residing in Curtice, Lucas County, Ohio.

  John A. Dandar is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 20. Plaintiff James M. DeVol is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. James M. DeVol is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 21. Plaintiff Mary A. Flisnik is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.

  Mary A. Flisnik is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 22. Plaintiff James E. Groves is an individual residing in Hudson, Hillsdale County, Michigan. James E. Groves is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 23. Plaintiff Pamela Heams is an individual residing in Lambertville, Monroe County, Michigan. Pamela Heams is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 24. Plaintiff Edward Holey is an individual residing in Lambertville, Monroe County, Michigan. Edward Holey is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 25. Plaintiff Eva Holston-Cole is an individual residing in Maumee, Lucas County, Ohio. Eva Holston-Cole is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 26. Plaintiff Jeffery D. Howell is an individual residing in Sylvania, Lucas County, Ohio. Jeffery D. Howell is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 27. Plaintiff Cynthia P. Jakab is an individual residing in Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio. Cynthia P. Jakab is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 28. Plaintiff Robert L. Johnson is an individual residing in Temperance, Monroe County, Michigan. Robert L. Johnson is a citizen and resident of Michigan.

- 29. Plaintiff Krist M. Kallil is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Krist M. Kallil is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 30. Plaintiff John J. Klosowski is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. John J. Klosowski is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 31. Plaintiff Lenora Lambright is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Lenora Lambright is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 32. Plaintiff Dora Martinez is an individual residing in Northwood, Wood County, Ohio. Dora Martinez is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 33. Plaintiff Leon McDaniel is an individual residing in Montpelier, Williams County, Ohio. Leon McDaniel is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 34. Plaintiff Henrietta L. Mefferd is an individual residing in Liberty Ct., Henry County, Ohio. Henrietta L. Mefferd is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 35. Plaintiff Willie R. Miller is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Willie R. Miller is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 36. Plaintiff Mark S. Miller is an individual residing in Blissfield, Lenawee County, Michigan. Mark S. Miller is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 37. Plaintiff Vasil Nedeski is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Vasil Nedeski is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 38. Plaintiff LeRoy Olson is an individual residing in Delta, Fulton County, Ohio.

  LeRoy Olson is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 39. Plaintiff Ahmad M. Orra is an individual residing in Perrysburg, Wood County, Ohio. Ahmad M. Orra is a citizen and resident of Ohio.

- 40. Plaintiff Pamela R. Patterson is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Pamela R. Patterson is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 41. Plaintiff John P. Penrod is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Michigan. John P. Penrod is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 42. Plaintiff Ronald Peterson is an individual residing in Sylvania, Lucas County, Ohio. Ronald Peterson is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 43. Plaintiff Donald Reed is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.

  Donald Reed is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 44. Plaintiff Thomas A. Rickman is an individual residing in Oregon, Lucas County, Ohio. Thomas A. Rickman is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 45. Plaintiff Randy Rooks is an individual residing in Rossford, Wood County, Ohio. Randy Rooks is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 46. Plaintiff Stephen J. Sanford is an individual residing in Temperance, Monroe County, Michigan. Stephen J. Sanford is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 47. Plaintiff Hillary E. Scott is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Hillary E. Scott is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 48. Plaintiff Steven James Seegert is an individual residing in Petersburg, Monroe County, Michigan. Steven James Seegert is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 49. Plaintiff David Raymond Steffes is an individual residing in Monroe, Monroe County, Michigan. David Raymond Steffes is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 50. Plaintiff Jeffery Strong is an individual residing in Ottawa Hills, Lucas County, Ohio. Jeffery Strong is a citizen and resident of Ohio.

- 51. Plaintiff William J. Szymanski is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. William J. Szymanski is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 52. Plaintiff Larry Tatum is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.

  Larry Tatum is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 53. Plaintiff Ronald L. VanBuskirk is an individual residing in Sylvania, Lucas County, Ohio. Ronald L. VanBuskirk is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 54. Plaintiff Carole Wawrzyniak is an individual residing in Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio. Carole Wawrzyniak is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 55. Plaintiff John A. Wisniewski is an individual residing in Hobe Sound, Martin County, Florida. John A. Wisniewski is a citizen and resident of Florida.
- 56. Plaintiff Jerri Wisniewski is an individual residing in Hobe Sound, Martin County, Florida. Jerri Wisniewski is a citizen and resident of Florida.
- 57. Plaintiff Frederick J. Wozniak Jr. is an individual residing in Temperance, Monroe County, Michigan. Frederick J. Wozniak Jr. is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 58. Plaintiff Peggy A. Zimmerman is an individual residing in Temperance, Monroe County, Michigan. Peggy A. Zimmerman is a citizen and resident of Michigan.
- 59. Plaintiff Darlene Cole is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.

  Darlene Cole is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 60. Plaintiff Josef C. Dubilzig is an individual residing in Rossford, Wood County,
  Ohio. Josef C. Dubilzig is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 61. Plaintiff Barry Howard Sr. is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County,
  Ohio. Barry Howard Sr. is a citizen and resident of Ohio

- 62. Plaintiff Vicente Juarez is an individual residing in Genoa, Ottawa County, Ohio. Vicente Juarez is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 63. Plaintiff Georgia Tisdale is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Georgia Tisdale is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 64. Plaintiff Kevin Stahl is an individual residing in Oregon, Lucas County, Ohio. Kevin Stahl is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 65. Plaintiff Richard Allen Cassady II is an individual residing in Risingsun, Sandusky County, Ohio. Richard Allen Cassady II is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 66. Plaintiff Ingrid Haynes is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Ingrid Haynes is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 67. Plaintiff Sharon Riger-Long is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Sharon Riger-Long is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 68. Plaintiff Nikola Nedeski is an individual residing in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Nikola Nedeski is a citizen and resident of Ohio.
- 69. Defendant FCA US LLC is a foreign limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware.
- 70. Defendant International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America ("UAW International Union") is one of the largest and most diverse labor organizations in the United States, representing over 400,000 active workers and 580,000 retirees.
- 71. Defendant United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, Region 2B ("UAW Region 2B") is a labor organization and is a constituent part of

the UAW International Union responsible for overseeing and supporting UAW locals in Ohio and Indiana.

72. Defendants UAW International Union and UAW Region 2B will be referenced as the UAW Defendants.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 73. This action arises from Plaintiffs' employment at, and subsequent termination from, a substantial automobile assembly plant in Toledo, Ohio (the "Jeep Complex") operated by Defendant FCA US LLC. Although employment numbers varied over time, FCA US LLC employs, and the UAW Defendants represent, thousands of workers at the Jeep Complex.
- 74. This Court possesses personal jurisdiction over Defendant FCA US LLC because this action arises from its regular transaction of business in this state through the operation of the Jeep Complex.
- 75. As set forth below, the UAW Defendants represent workers at the Jeep Complex. This Court possesses jurisdiction over each of the UAW Defendants pursuant to the LMRA at 29 U.S.C. § 185(c)(2).
- 76. This Court possesses subject mater jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' alternative independent claim for the UAW's breach of its duty of fair representation pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1337.
- 77. This action arises from a series of employment and collective bargaining relationships centered at the Jeep Complex in Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Venue is proper in this District and Division pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) as a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred here.

78. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' LMRA claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because they arise under the laws of the United States. *See*: 29 U.S.C. § 185; 28 U.S.C. § 1337. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction with respect to Plaintiffs' state-law discrimination claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 as they arise from the same case and controversy.

#### **COMMON FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 79. Under various corporate entities, Jeep vehicles and related components have been manufactured at the Jeep Complex, a substantial facility in northern Toledo, since the 1940's.
- 80. Over the years, a variety of different Jeep vehicles and components have been manufactured at the Jeep Complex under the auspices of a variety of different corporate structures and contractor/supplier arrangements.
- 81. Since the late 1980's, the Jeep brand has been part of the Chrysler family of brands, one of the "Big Three" American automobile manufacturers. Over the years, Chrysler has undergone a series of mergers, partnerships, corporate structures and a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy reorganization in 2008-2009.
- 82. In 2009, Chrysler emerged from bankruptcy protection with the UAW pension fund, Fiat S.p.A. (an Italian automaker) and the United States and Canadian government as principal owners. Since 2009, Fiat has gradually acquired the other parties' shares and the Chrysler family of brands is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Fiat: Defendant FCA<sup>2</sup> US LLC.

16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise specified, "Chrysler" as used herein shall mean the sequence of corporations that manufactured and marketed Chrysler automobiles, now FCA US LLC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "FCA" is an abbreviation for "Fiat Chrysler Automotive."

- 83. The UAW, one of the largest labor organizations in the United States, has historically represented hourly Chrysler workers, along with hourly workers in the automobile industry in the United States.
- 84. The UAW is a hierarchical organization governed by the Constitution of the UAW International Union.
- 85. UAW Members form Local Unions, which bargain with one or a handful of employers or worksites. UAW locals are grouped into approximately nine regions, which are intended to oversee and support local organizing and bargaining activities. In turn, UAW International Union oversees and supports all UAW Regions and Locals.
- 86. Hourly workers at the Jeep complex are, and have historically been, represented by United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, Local 12 ("UAW Local 12").
- 87. UAW Local 12 represents multiple UAW bargaining units in the Toledo, Ohio area. Relevant to this case, UAW Local 12 represents hourly workers at the paint shop, which (among other things) painted new Jeep Wrangler vehicles assembled at the nearby Toledo South Assembly Plant. As set forth below, the "Wrangler Paint Shop" was nominally operated by a number of corporate entities throughout the relevant time period, but produced only the Wrangler vehicle on behalf of Jeep/Chrysler.
- 88. In the U.S. automotive industry, collective bargaining agreements between the UAW and the "Big Three" manufacturers (General Motors, Ford and Chrysler) are negotiated in two parts.
- 89. Approximately every four years, the UAW International Union bargains for a series of master agreements with each of the Big Three automakers.

- 90. With respect to Chrysler, the UAW International Union bargains for two separate master agreements: one covering Engineering, Office and Clerical workers and one covering Production Maintenance and Parts workers. These agreements cover issues such as changes in wage rates, seniority, grievance processes, attendance polices, hours of work, procedures for transferring from one plant to another, etc. Of relevance to this case are:
  - a. The 2015 Production Maintenance and Parts Agreement, attached hereto as
     Exhibit 1 (except for minor modifications in 2007 and 2011, this agreement was in effect for the entire time period);
  - b. The 2011 Pension Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit 2;
  - c. The 2009 Jeep Corporation Retirement Income Plan, attached hereto as Exhibit 3
     (except for minor modifications in 2009, this plan was in effect during the entire until approximately 2011).
- 91. The UAW International Union and Chrysler have also, from time to time, bargained for various letters, memoranda and supplemental agreements. In addition, the UAW International Union and Chrysler have bargained for a separate pension agreement covering all Chrysler employees represented by the UAW.
- 92. The master agreements described in the preceding paragraphs contemplate additional agreements between UAW Local Unions and Chrysler management concerning specific bargaining units, including units at specific Chrysler facilities. Some issues, such as the specific order of applicable seniority lists, are explicitly left to local negotiation. In addition, the UAW Local Unions are permitted limited discretion to bargain with local Chrysler management about particular issues governing a plant or bargaining unit, provided these agreements are

consistent with the master agreements bargained for between Chrysler and the UAW International Union.

# Chrysler induces Plaintiffs to "retire" to help the company launch a new product at the Jeep Complex

- 93. In approximately 2004-2006, each Plaintiff was a long-serving hourly Chrysler employee and UAW member who had accumulated significant seniority within his or her respective bargaining unit.
- 94. Each Plaintiff was a Chrysler employee in the 2004-2006 timeframe. Some had been working at the Jeep Complex before Chrysler took over management of the plant from American Motors in the 1980's.
- 95. In 1998, Chrysler, then an independent company, merged with the German automaker Daimler-Benz AG and became a division of DaimlerChrysler.
- 96. In the early 2000's, Chrysler constructed a new assembly line in the Jeep Complex to manufacture the 2007 Jeep Wrangler, a significant redesign of the vehicle that began its life as a general-purpose military vehicle prior to the Second World War.
- 97. Unlike traditional automobile assembly plants, the new assembly line tested a new "collaborative" structure in which third-party suppliers would be co-located and would perform portions of the manufacturing and assembly process traditionally undertaken by Chrysler hourly employees (the "Toledo Supplier Park").
- 98. As outlined below, this "collaborative structure" deviated significantly from a long-established practice of employing exclusively UAW members in Chrysler plants to assemble Chrysler vehicles. In fact, the arrangement violated several provisions of the master agreements as outlined below.

- 99. In order to "launch" the new assembly line, Chrysler and its suppliers needed a cadre of experienced autoworkers to ensure that the smooth operations of the new plant.
- 100. However, Chrysler and its suppliers had difficulty recruiting experienced workers willing to leave established plants at which they had acquired seniority for the Toledo Supplier Park, due to relative uncertainty surrounding both the new product and the new management structure.
- 101. Chrysler and the UAW actively recruited senior UAW members already employed by Chrysler at the Jeep Complex in order to staff the Toledo Supplier Park by encouraging them to retire from Chrysler, begin collecting their pensions and begin working at the Toledo Supplier Park through the nominally independent third-party suppliers.
- 102. Each Plaintiff retired from Chrysler in or around 2006 and eventually went to work in the "Wrangler Paint Shop," a part of the Toledo Supplier Park that painted Jeep Wranglers as they came off the production line.
- 103. Both Chrysler managers and UAW International Union executives represented to Plaintiffs that, if they retired from Chrysler and went to work at the Toledo Supplier Park they could continue to work indefinitely and that there was no "expiration date" to their employment. Chrysler managers and UAW International Union executives made similar representations to the leadership of UAW Local 12.
- 104. Plaintiffs were in their late forties and early fifties in 2006 and intended to work for another decade or more. Plaintiffs relied on the representations described in the previous paragraph that their long-term employment was secure when they decided to retire from Chrysler earlier than they otherwise planned.

- 105. As originally planned, Hayden Prism was the supplier identified to operate the paint shop for the new Wrangler line ("the Wrangler Paint Shop").
- 106. However, Hayden pulled out of the project at the last minute due to bankruptcy in 2006. At that time, while the plant was still preparing to start production, Chrysler took direct control of the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 107. Following Hayden's bankruptcy, Chrysler engaged Spherion, a national staffing agency, to operate, mostly off site, certain payroll and human resources functions for hourly employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop. However, Chrysler employed all managers in the shop. Chrysler made all substantive decisions about production and staffing.
- 108. Upon information and belief, during 2006 and 2007, Chrysler worked on finding a replacement for Hayden. In 2007, Magna Styer agreed to take over the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 109. When the so-called Toledo Supplier Park began production: the KUKA group, a German company, was responsible for building the bodies for the Wrangler; Hyundai owned Mobis-Ohio Module Manufacturing Company (OMMC) assembled the vehicle's chassis; and Magna Styer ran the paint shop. All of these entities and respective processes were conducted at the direction of, and coordinated by, Chrysler at all relevant time periods.
- 110. While some of the "independent" suppliers may have exercised judgment and independence in areas of the supplier park, the suppliers operating the Wrangler Paint Shop were independent in name only. Chrysler directly operated the plant as described below.
- 111. From 2008, hourly workers in the Wrangler Paint Shop were covered by a collective bargaining agreement between the UAW International Union, UAW Local 12 and a Magna Styer, attached hereto as Exhibit 4.

- 112. Pursuant to Exhibit 4, workers in the Wrangler Paint Shop acquired seniority based upon their date of hire. (ECF # 1-5 at p. 16). Once acquired, seniority could only be lost under specific enumerated circumstances, such as discharge for cause, resignation and disability. *Id.* at p. 17.
- 113. Each Plaintiff was hired into the Wrangler Paint Shop and assigned a seniority date based under Exhibit 4 upon when they were hired. For example, an individual hired to work in the Wrangler Paint Shop in January 2007 possessed more seniority than an individual hired in November 2008, who in turn possessed more seniority than an individual hired in February 2012.
- 114. Seniority also strongly influences job security and work assignments. For example, more senior employees are generally given preference of shifts and job duties over less senior employees. (ECF # 1-5 at p. 18). In the event of layoffs, more senior employees may not be laid off before less senior employees. (ECF # 1-5 at pp. 22-25).
- 115. The seniority system in place in the Wrangler Paint Shop pursuant to Exhibit 4 was consistent with the applicable master agreements between Chrysler and the UAW International Union under which the specific order of seniority was left to local agreement at individual plants, as long as the local arrangement did not conflict with the applicable national agreement. (ECF # 1-5 at 57).
- 116. Between 2006 and 2011, various other corporate entities undertook Magna Styer's duties as successors. In approximate chronological order, these nominal employers consisted of: Hayden, Durr; Spherion; Magna Styer; Gonzalez/Chrysler.
- 117. At all times however, Chrysler operated the Wrangler Paint Shop as part of larger assembly line for the company's Jeep Wrangler vehicles. This assembly line, in turn, is and was a part of a larger Jeep Complex, owned and operated by Chrysler. That is, the Wrangler Paint

Shop was at all times an integrated part of a Chrysler plant, was located on Chrysler property and exclusively worked on Chrysler vehicles.

- 118. As a practical matter and on a day-to-day basis, all workers in the Wrangler Paint Shop, including Plaintiffs, were Chrysler employees at all times. They ultimately reported to Chrysler supervisors, did Chrysler's work and were ultimately compensated by Chrysler.
- 119. Moreover, pursuant to Exhibit 4, the key economic provisions concerning Plaintiffs' employment were explicitly tied to changes in the master agreements between Chrysler and the UAW International Union (See ECF # 1-5 at p. 44):

The fringe benefits in Article 16, call-in/call back pay in section 14.1, shift premium in Section 14.2, lunch periods/break in Section 14.6 and wages Article 17 shall be adjusted to pass through, on an aggregate equivalency basis, changes in the comparable fringe benefits, pay/hour provisions and wages from the 2007 and subsequent labor agreements at the Chrysler Toledo South final trim assembly plant which become effective during the term of such agreement(s). This approach is consistent with the approach in this agreement, which reflects a pass through, on an aggregate equivalency basis, of the comparable fridge benefits, pay/hours provisions and wages from the 2003 labor agreement effective at the Chrysler Toledo South final trim assembly plant.

- 120. Throughout the relevant time period, nearly all provisions regarding wages and working conditions made as a result of changes in the applicable master agreements between Chrysler and the UAW International Union were imposed upon workers in the Wrangler Paint Shop, including Plaintiffs.
- 121. In addition to the specific provisions of the master agreements identified in at ECF # 1-5, p. 44, Chrysler selectively passed through additional changes in working conditions to the employees of nominally independent contractors working in the Wrangler Paint Shop. For example, when Chrysler emerged from bankruptcy protection in 2009, the company imposed concessions on Plaintiffs regarding holidays, attendance procedures, job security programs, grievance resolution procedures and other issues beyond the terms of Exhibit 4.

- 122. However, Chrysler intentionally sought to avoid acknowledging that employees of the Wrangler Paint Shop were its employees through the fig leafs of a series of "independent contractor" arrangements, despite the fact that Chrysler directly controlled wages and working conditions in the plant.
- 123. That is, Chrysler consistently sought to pick and choose which contractual provisions from the master agreements would be passed through to UAW members working in the Wrangler paint shop without regard for the terms of either Exhibit 4 or the applicable master agreement.
- 124. The central arrangement in the Toledo Supplier Park, having suppliers perform assembly functions on Chrysler's premises, is specifically prohibited and/or severely curtailed by the various master agreements in place between the UAW and Chrysler. For example, the UAW is appointed the exclusive bargaining representative for hourly workers in Chrysler plants and independent contractors are broadly prohibited from displacing UAW member to undertake traditional assembly work.
- 125. Pursuant to the 2015 Production, Maintenance and Parts Agreement (ECF # 1-2) at p. 5:

Pursuant to and in accordance with the National Labor Relations Act, [Chrysler] \*\*\* does hereby recognize the [UAW] as the exclusive representative for the purpose of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages hours of employment, and other conditions of employment for the term of this Agreement of all employees of [Chrysler] included in the bargaining units described in Schedule "A" appended to this Agreement.

\*\*\*

This Agreement shall extend automatically to production and maintenance employees at any new plant that [Chrysler] builds that the parties shall, or, in the absence of agreement, that the National Labor Relations Board Shall determine, constitutes an accretion to the multiple-plant bargaining unit this Agreement covers, excluding such employees as the parties agree or the Board decides should be excluded.

- 126. Substantially identical provisions appear in the 2007 and 2011 versions of the applicable master Production, Maintenance and Parts Agreements.
- 127. Pursuant to the 2015 Production, Maintenance and Parts Agreement (ECF # 1-2) at p. 72:

Employees of an outside contractor will not be utilized in a plant covered by this Agreement to replace seniority employees on production assembly or manufacturing work or fabrication of tools, dies, jigs and fixtures \*\*\* when the performance of such work involves the use of Company-owned machines, tools or equipment maintained by employees.

- 128. Substantially identical provisions appear in the 2007 and 2011 versions of the applicable master Production, Maintenance and Parts Agreements.
- 129. Pursuant to the 2015 Production, Maintenance and Parts Agreement (ECF # 1-2) at p. 73:

In no event shall any seniority employee who customarily performs the work in question be laid off as a direct and immediate result of work being performed by any outside contractor on the plant premises.

- 130. Substantially identical provisions appear in the 2007 and 2011 versions of the applicable master Production, Maintenance and Parts Agreements.
- 131. As outlined herein, the work performed by Plaintiffs at the Wrangler Paint Shop was and is traditionally "production assembly" work performed by individuals who are Chrysler employees and UAW members.
- 132. In order to operate the Toledo Supplier Park, including the Wrangler Paint Shop, with employees of suppliers and other entities, Chrysler needed the agreement and cooperation of the UAW International and Local unions because such operation is directly contrary to the core provisions of the applicable master agreement, namely that the UAW represents Chrysler employees doing assembly work in Chrysler plants.

- 133. The establishment of the Wrangler Paint Shop with nominally independent contractors violated the provisions outlined in the preceding paragraphs.
- assured both the leadership of UAW Local 12 and individual employees such as Plaintiffs, that they would be "taken care of" if they agreed to retire from Chrysler and work in the Wrangler Paint Shop, notwithstanding the unprecedented management structure and that any future significant changes to Plaintiffs' employment conditions would only occur after additional collective bargaining between the UAW and Chrysler.
- 135. Traditionally, any bargaining concerning the status of UAW members working in a Chrysler plant would involve the UAW International Union, the UAW Local Union (in this case Local 12) and Chrysler management. In 2006, neither Chrysler nor the UAW International Union indicated to Plaintiffs or UAW Local 12 leadership that they intended to deviate from this longstanding pattern.
- 136. During this period, the UAW International Union and UAW Local 12 continued to represent Plaintiffs, as well as all hourly employees at Toledo Supplier Park generally, and the Wrangler Paint Shop in particular.

## Chrysler takes direct control of Wrangler Paint Shop and Terminates Plaintiffs

- 137. Between the opening of the Toledo Supplier Park and early 2011, Chrysler had undergone a series of significant corporate transactions, including the end of its partnership with Daimler-Benz, the Chapter 11 Bankruptcy reorganization and purchase by Fiat.
- 138. By early 2011, the business relationship concerning the Wrangler Paint Shop between Magna Styer and Chrysler had deteriorated. Generally, Magna Styer no longer desired

to operate the Wrangler Paint Shop and Chrysler desired to exercise more direct control over the management of the plant.

- 139. Effective March 1, 2011, and pursuant to an agreement with Magna Styer,
  Chrysler (then "Chrysler LLC," a division of Fiat) took over direct management of the Wrangler
  Paint Shop.
- 140. Pursuant to a letter agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit 5) between Chrysler Human Resources Director P.G. Shagena and UAW Region 2B Director Kenneth Lortz, Chrysler "carried over" the conditions of Exhibit 4 after it took over management of the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 141. Pursuant to Section 3.4 of Exhibit 4, the collective bargaining agreement between Chrysler and Magna Styer could be assigned to other successor entities.
- 142. On behalf of UAW Region 2B, Lortz also agreed in Exhibit 5 to permit Chrysler to "assign" represented employees, including Plaintiffs, to "a third party to be managed by Chrysler."
- 143. No provision of Exhibit 4 or any of the applicable master agreements permitted Chrysler to "assign" its employees to other entities.
- 144. In approximately March 2011, if it had not already done so by operation of law, Chrysler became a party to Exhibit 4 pursuant the successor clause, Section 3.4 including the existing seniority system and lists.
- 145. After March 2011, Chrysler continued to exercise direct control of the Wrangler Paint Shop. Chrysler directly employed all managers in the shop. Chrysler made all substantive decisions about production and staffing.

- 146. However, Chrysler purported to "assign" Plaintiffs and other hourly workers at the Wrangler Paint Shop to the payroll of Gonzalez Contract Services, LLC ("Gonzalez").
- 147. Between early 2011 and middle of 2012, with respect to the Wrangler Paint Shop, Gonzalez performed almost no management or business function besides serving as the nominal employer of the hourly workers covered by Exhibit 4, including Plaintiffs.
- 148. During the 2011 to 2012 timeframe, only a handful of Gonzalez employees worked on premises at the Wrangler Paint Shop performing payroll and administrative functions under the direction of Chrysler management.
- 149. During this period, Chrysler agreed to indemnify Gonzalez for any liability that may arise due to Gonzalez's status as Plaintiffs' nominal employer.
- 150. During its involvement with the Wrangler Paint Shop, Gonzalez assumed no legal or business risks for the operation of the plant due to its agreements with Chrysler.
- 151. Plaintiffs continued to work at a Chrysler facility, reporting exclusively to Chrysler management, making only Chrysler vehicles. As outlined above, this arrangement was contrary to various master agreements in place between the UAW and Chrysler, which limited or strictly curtailed the use of contract workers in Chrysler facilities.
- 152. The UAW International Union permitted the unconventional arrangement to continue, despite provisions in the applicable master agreements to the contrary. During this period, UAW International Union leadership again repeatedly reassured Plaintiffs and the leadership of UAW Local 12 that the arrangement would have no adverse affect on the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop. According to Chrysler and the UAW International Union, Plaintiffs were already Chrysler employees at that time.

- 153. At some point in late 2011 or early 2012, Chrysler and the UAW International Union decided to end the nominal supplier/contractor agreement that had prevailed in the Wrangler Paint Shop since it opened. The reasons for and timing of this decision were obscure to both Plaintiffs and the leadership of UAW Local 12. However, the primary goal of both Chrysler and the UAW International Union appeared to involve "insourcing" the Wrangler Paint Shop such that all employees would be traditional employees of Chrysler.
- 154. This "insourcing" took the form of Chrysler purporting to "terminate" Gonzalez's contract to perform the nominal payroll and human resources functions with respect to the Wrangler Paint Shop. As Chrysler expected and intended, this decision resulted directly in Gonzalez purporting to "lay off" all of the UAW employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop. Chrysler made all substantive decisions concerning Plaintiffs' employment.
- 155. Because of the unconventional nature of the of the arrangement governing the Wrangler Paint Shop from the beginning, Chrysler's decision to assert direct control of the plant created a need for collective bargaining concerning the status of UAW employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop. However, Chrysler had already assumed the applicable local agreement, Exhibit 4, as successor to Magna Steyr, including the existing seniority list.
- 156. The bargaining between the UAW International Union and Chrysler in 2012 concerning the status of the employees of the Wrangler Paint Shop was marred by several procedural and substantive irregularities.
- 157. First, a small number of UAW International Union executives, led by then Vice President of the UAW International Union's Chrysler Division General Holiefield, took over bargaining concerning the status of employees at Wrangler Paint Shop. This group included,

among others, Holiefield's aid James Hardy and UAW International Union Region 2B representative Jim Waingrow.

- 158. At the time, Holiefield was the Vice President of the UAW International Union's Chrysler division. As such, Holiefield was the top executive responsible for representing the UAW International Union in collective bargaining with Chrysler. The other UAW International Union employees involved in bargaining over the status of the Wrangler Paint Shop were subordinate to Holiefield.
- 159. In 2012, Holiefield was a long-serving and powerful executive of the UAW International Union who exerted extensive control over the national collective bargaining relationship between Chrysler and the UAW through his official authority, personal relationships and loyalty of his subordinates, many of whom Holiefield hired.
- 160. Holiefield and his team from the UAW International Union systematically locked the employees of Wrangler Paint Shop and the leadership of UAW Local Union 12 out of the bargaining with Chrysler over the status of the Union's membership in the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 161. Holiefield's and UAW International Union's decision to exclude UAW Local Union 12 violates, among other provisions, Article 19, Section 3 of the UAW International Union's Constitution which provides:

No Local Union Officer, International Officer or International Representative shall have the authority to negotiate the terms of a contract or any supplement thereof with any employer without first obtaining the approval of the Local Union. \*\*\*

Neither Holiefield nor the UAW International Union obtained approval form UAW Local 12 to undertake negotiations with Chrysler on behalf of workers in the Wrangler Paint Shop.

- 162. Holiefield's counterpart during these negotiations was Alphons Iacobelli, Chrysler's Vice President of Employee Relations. In turn, all other individuals negotiating with Holiefield on behalf of Chrysler were direct subordinates of Iacobelli.
- 163. Moreover, UAW Local Union 12's exclusion from bargaining with Chrysler is contrary to a long and well-established practice that the UAW Local and International Unions both participate in similar bargaining.
- 164. Second, Holiefield and his team from the UAW International Union accepted, apparently without objection or dispute, Chrysler's position that the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop in late 2012 were solely employed by Gonzalez, had no particular relationship to Chrysler or the applicable master agreements and were functionally equivalent to new hires from the street.
- 165. Chrysler's position on this point is contrary to course of dealing between the Chrysler and the UAW Defendants, the provisions governing the use of contractors in Chrysler plants contained in the master agreements as defined above, as well as Chrysler assumption of the role of successor under Exhibit 4.
- 166. Holiefield and his team inexplicably accepted Chrysler's position on this point, despite:
  - a long course of dealing between Chrysler and the UAW International Union concerning the status of its membership working in the Wrangler Paint Shop;
  - b. Chrysler's assumption of an assignment of Magna Styer's role under the local collective bargaining agreement pursuant to Section 3.4 of Exhibit 4 and the seniority system in place at when Chrysler became successor;

- c. the provisions of the applicable master agreements, which limited or strictly curtailed the use of contract workers in Chrysler facilities, allegedly in exchange for assurances from Chrysler that these individuals would be treated as Chrysler employees;
- d. Plaintiffs' treatment, like all of the employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop, as Chrysler employees, with mirror-image wages and benefits, including a Chrysler employee number that remained consistent throughout the relevant time period until the present; and
- e. the repeated assurances given by Chrysler management, UAW International
  Union to Plaintiffs and UAW Local 12 that the status of these employees would
  be subject to bargaining between the UAW International Union, UAW Local 12
  and Chrysler and that employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop would be afforded
  appropriate seniority.
- 167. Third, both Chrysler and the UAW International Union were inexplicably insistent on firing Plaintiffs, who had "retired" from Chrysler in 2006 and transferred to the Wrangler Paint Shop in order to offer the experience and expertise necessary to launch the production line.
- 168. UAW International Union officials from Holiefield's team who were in communication with Plaintiffs or the leadership of UAW Local 12, including James Hardy and Jim Waingrow, offered shifting and illogical explanations for Chrysler's decision to terminate Plaintiffs, along with all other employees who had "retired" from Chrysler in 2006 and transferred to the Wrangler Paint Shop.

- 169. At various times, the UAW International Union and Chrysler management explained the need to terminate Plaintiffs by indicating that the applicable master agreements prohibited individuals who had "retired" from Chrysler and begun collecting a pension from returning to work for the company.
- 170. Indeed, Chrysler spokeswomen Jodi Tinson offered this explanation in a November 29, 2012 article in the Toledo Blade: "By virtue of their retirement, they cannot return to employment with the company."
- 171. Ms. Tinson's public pronouncements on this topic were consistent with the position communicated by both Chrysler and the UAW International Union during most discussions with Plaintiffs and the UAW Local 12 leadership during 2011 and 2012.
- 172. However, the plain language of the master pension agreements explicitly <u>permits</u>

  UAW retirees to return to work for the company and provides an extensive framework for how such a situation would be handled:
  - a. With respect to the 2011 Pension Agreement in place at the time that Chrysler took direct control of the Wrangler Paint Shop (Exhibit 2), see, *inter alia:* Section 1(C); Section 5; Section 7(D); Section 11(Q); and Letter Agreement dated October 14, 1996.
  - b. With respect to the Jeep Corporation-UAW Retirement Income Plan in place at the time that Plaintiffs "retired" from Chrysler and began collecting pensions (Exhibit 3), see, *inter alia*: Article I, Section 10; Article IV, Section V.
- 173. Indeed, no local or master agreement in effect between the UAW International Union, UAW Local 12 and Chrysler prohibited Plaintiffs from continuing to work in the

Wrangler Paint Shop after Chrysler ended the nominal supplier/contractor arrangement in place with Gonzalez, as was represented to Plaintiffs by both the UAW Defendants and Chrysler.

- 174. As set forth above, the applicable master agreements provide a framework for just such an instance.
- brought the plain language of the applicable pension agreements to the attention of the officials at the UAW International Union who had unilaterally assumed authority for negotiations with Chrysler, including James Hardy and Jim Waingrow, and excluded UAW Local 12 officials from participating. In response, the officials of the UAW International Union offered conflicting and contradictory explanations for why the applicable master agreements required Plaintiffs' termination. Eventually, the UAW International Union stopped responding to the inquiries.
- 176. At all times that they dealt with Plaintiffs and employees at the Wrangler Paint Shop, Holiefield and the other officials in the UAW International Union bargaining on behalf of Plaintiffs relied upon the discretion invested in them by virtue of their position in the International Union to act in the best interest of the national UAW membership working at Chrysler as a whole to justify their actions during the 2011-2012 time period. That is, Holiefield and the other officials at the UAW International Union repeatedly justified decisions that were obviously adverse to Plaintiffs by indicating that these decisions served some greater, national good.
- 177. At one point, UAW Local 12 leaders arranged a single meeting between themselves, a group of Plaintiffs, the UAW International Union officials and Chrysler human resources executive Lisa Rhinehart Klosh. At that meeting, Plaintiffs, including Plaintiff

Wawzyniak, and UAW Local 12 leaders presented the plain language of the applicable bargaining agreements permitting Plaintiffs to continue to work in the Wrangler Paint Shop.

- 178. At that meeting, Klosh seemed receptive to the presentation by Plaintiffs and the leadership of UAW Local 12 and indicated that Plaintiffs should continue to be employed according to the terms of the applicable master agreements.
- 179. Shortly after this meeting, UAW International Union official Tim Bressler told members of the leadership of UAW Local 12 that Holiefield specifically desired that Chrysler's takeover of the Wrangler Paint Shop proceed as an "insourcing" of new employees and that this form of transaction required that Plaintiffs be terminated. Bressler made it clear that Holiefield believed that this path was the best way forward for the UAW International membership working at Chrysler as a whole, even though obviously adverse to Plaintiffs, and that no official at the UAW International Union and/or UAW Region 2B would question Holiefield's judgment on this point for fear of his or her own position.
- 180. Bressler made the representations described in the preceding paragraph for the purposes of discouraging Plaintiffs and the leadership of UAW Local Union 12 from continuing to resist the proposed structure of Chrysler's takeover of the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 181. As set forth above, in the fall of 2012, Chrysler executives and Holiefield's team from the UAW International Union engaged in closed-door negotiations in Detroit, Michigan, excluding any of Plaintiffs or members of UAW Local 12, concerning the status of workers at the Wrangler Paint Shop following Chrysler's takeover.
- 182. On or about November 14, 2012, Chrysler and the UAW International Union prepared a memorandum titled "Wrangler Paint Shop Understandings," attached hereto as

Exhibit 6, purporting to memorialize an agreement between Chrysler and the UAW International Union.

- 183. Pursuant to Exhibit 6, Chrysler would "hire" most UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop. These workers would be stripped of their existing seniority date and arbitrarily assigned an entry date of November 30, 2012, or the date that Chrysler purported to officially take over direct management of the Wrangler Paint Shop. However, as outlined above, Chrysler had already assumed the role of successor under Exhibit 4 no later than 2011.
- 184. In most cases, wages of UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop would be frozen, regardless of seniority in the plant. As a result, these workers would be deprived of periodic raises that they would otherwise have received pursuant to either the existing Local Agreement (Exhibit 4) or starting pay pursuant to the then-prevailing master agreement with Chrysler (Exhibit 1). In addition, workers remaining in the Wrangler Paint Shop would be deprived of certain pension or other benefits to which they would have otherwise been entitled based on their seniority at that plant.
- 185. Pursuant to Exhibit 6, Plaintiffs, individuals who "retired" from Chrysler in order to work at the Wrangler Paint Shop, would be terminated effective November 30, 2012 without regard for seniority.
- 186. Pursuant to Exhibit 6, Plaintiffs would receive a severance payment and would be required to execute a release of potential claims against Chrysler, all UAW entities and Gonzalez.
- 187. Exhibit 6 is signed by Holiefield and UAW Region 2B representative Ken Lortz on behalf to the UAW International Union.

- 188. Exhibit 6 is initialed by subordinates of Chrysler Vice President of Employee Relations Alphons Iacobelli on behalf of the company.
- 189. Holiefield and the Chrysler executives identified in the previous paragraph reached the terms of the agreement memorialized in Exhibit 6.
- 190. No member of Holiefield's team from the UAW International Union approached Plaintiffs or the leadership of UAW Local 12 about any concessions, however drastic, which would preserve their jobs in the Wrangler Paint Shop. Instead, Holiefield and his team simply seemed intent on pushing through an agreement that resulted in Plaintiffs' termination.
- 191. On approximately November 18, 2012, the UAW International Union presented a collective bargaining agreement reflecting the substantive terms of Exhibit 6 to the members of UAW Local 12 for ratification.
- 192. The November 18 meeting was held less than four days after the agreement reflected in Exhibit 6 was reached and only 12 days before Plaintiffs were to be terminated.
- 193. At the November 18 meeting, for the first time, Jim Waingrow presented the proposed agreement on behalf of the UAW International Union to employees of Wrangler Paint Shop. Waingrow indicated that the proposal was the result of complex negotiations conducted in good faith between Chrysler and the UAW International Union and, in general, "was the best that could be accomplished under difficult circumstances."
- 194. Moreover, Waingrow presented the proposed agreement as a take-it-or-leave-it offer. Waingrow made it clear that the UAW International Union was not willing to engage in further bargaining over the issue. Waingrow also emphasized the position of the UAW International Union and Chrysler that, as the result of the years-long course of bargaining between them described above, all UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop were

solely employed by Gonzalez, had no particular relationship to Chrysler or the applicable master agreements and, with respect to Chrysler, were functionally equivalent to new hires from the street. As set forth herein, this position is directly contrary to the applicable collective local and master collective bargaining agreements.

- 195. As set forth above, Waingrow's statement regarding the status of UAW members working in the paint shop is neither accurate nor complete. Both Chrysler and the UAW International Union repeatedly reassured Plaintiffs and the leadership of UAW Local 12 that Plaintiffs would be fairly treated as a result of the unconventional arrangements in the Supplier Park. Moreover, as set forth above, Chrysler and the UAW International Union had repeatedly ignored provisions of the relevant master agreements to permit the arrangement.
- 196. Waingrow further indicated that, if the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop failed to approve a bargaining agreement memorializing Exhibit 6 at the November 18 meeting, Chrysler would likely terminate substantially all of these employees in the short term.
- 197. As a result, the UAW members affected by Exhibit 6, including Plaintiffs, were given only a matter of hours to consider its terms and a very limited opportunity to ask questions of the UAW International Union officials who negotiated the terms of Exhibit 6.
- 198. In short, Waingrow and the UAW International Union deliberately staged the November 18 meeting to exert the maximum pressure on UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop to approve Exhibit 6 with a minimum amount of time for consideration or scrutiny of the negotiations leading to the proposal.
- 199. At the November 18 meeting, a majority of UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop approved a bargaining agreement memorializing Exhibit 6.

- 200. Upon information and belief, the majority of UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop who voted in favor of approving the proposed agreement at the November 18 meeting were individuals who would retain their positions, or were friends or relatives of individuals who would retain their positions, and voted in favor of the proposed agreement out of fear that they would be terminated in the near term if the proposal was not ratified.
- 201. Pursuant to the terms of Exhibit 6, Plaintiffs were terminated on November 30, 2012.
- 202. Pursuant to the terms of Exhibit 6, Plaintiffs received a severance payment at approximately three months they were terminated.
- 203. In order to receive a severance payment, the UAW International Union and Chrysler required each Plaintiff to execute a release of claims against the UAW, Chrysler and others.
- 204. Plaintiffs executed a release. Each Plaintiff did so upon the representations of the UAW International Union, who were bound by a fiduciary duty of fair representation, that:
  - a. The UAW International Union, bound by a fiduciary duty of fair representation,
     had engaged in good-faith negotiations with Chrysler concerning the status of
     employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop;
  - b. In the good-faith judgment of the UAW International Union, the agreement evidenced by Exhibit 6 was "the best that could be accomplished under a difficult circumstance" and was, on balance, in the best interest of the UAW union as a whole, as well as the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop;

- c. The UAW International Union would not engage in any further bargaining with Chrysler on Plaintiffs' behalf and Plaintiffs would be laid off anyway, regardless of whether they signed the release; and
- d. The UAW International Union had the right to bargain with Chrysler, while locking the affected employees and local union out of the bargaining.
- 205. As outlined above, these representations were made by Jim Waingrow, Ken Lortz and others on behalf of the UAW International Union and UAW Region 2B from the podium at a meeting at the UAW Local 12 Union Hall (2300 Ashland Ave in Toledo, Ohio) on or about November 18, 2012. Similar representations were made to individual plaintiffs by Waingrow, Bressler, Lortz and others during November 2012.
  - 206. As outlined herein, these representations were false.
- 207. In addition to the affirmative representations Waingrow, Bressler, Lortz and others made material omissions from their presentation on November 18: namely, as subsequent criminal prosecutions later revealed, that Chrysler and Iacobelli had paid bribes to Holiefield and other members of the leadership of the UAW International Union to secure company-friendly bargaining positions in negotiations concerning, among other things, the status of employees in the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 208. These affirmative misrepresentations and omissions were material to each Plaintiff's decision to execute releases: had they understood that the agreement underpinning the releases was influenced by bribery, they would not have signed releases and would have reported the criminal activity to appropriate authorities.
- 209. As outlined herein, Chrysler and Iacobelli were active participants in the fraud described above. Chrysler paid bribes to the UAW International Union with the specific intent

of procuring company-friendly positions at the expense of Chrysler employees and UAW membership. As outlined herein, Chrysler was successful in obtaining precisely this result.

- 210. Plaintiffs, individually and collectively, attempted to utilize administrative or internal paths to challenge their terminations, including the grievance procedure established by the applicable master and local bargaining agreements between Chrysler and the UAW, as well as an internal appellate procedure established by the UAW International Union Constitution.
- 211. Like many grievance procedures established by collective bargaining agreements, both the master and local bargaining agreements involve an escalating series of "steps."

  Generally, the decision to process grievances at early steps involved UAW stewards working in individual plants and the relevant local union. As the grievance escalates through the "steps," discretion to process and prosecute any grievance shifts to the UAW International Union.
- 212. Pursuant to the applicable master agreements, any decision to process a grievance to an impartial Appeal Board must be made by the UAW International Union. Any resolution of a grievance prior to this stage requires Chrysler's voluntary agreement.
- 213. With respect to Plaintiffs, at the early stages of the grievance process, Chrysler simply denied the claims.
- 214. The UAW International Union, which controlled the later stages of the grievance process, refused to process any grievance concerning Plaintiffs' termination once it escalated beyond the early stages of the process where local shop stewards and the local union were responsible for processing grievances.
- 215. At the time, the UAW International Union cited the agreement between itself and Chrysler contained in Exhibit 6 as its basis for refusing to process any grievance concerning Plaintiffs' termination. That is, the UAW International Union purported to exercise its judgment

that any such grievance lacked merit because Chrysler's termination of Plaintiffs was consistent with the Exhibit 6, which the UAW international Union previously represented was negotiated in good faith and constituted the best possible resolution under the circumstances.

- 216. Jeff Weills and Richard Sheets, who were local officers of the UAW shop committee, prosecuted an internal appeal of, among other issues, Plaintiffs' termination pursuant to procedures established by the UAW International Union Constitution. This appeal timely advanced through all stages of the UAW appellate process, including the Public Review Board, an internal UAW body formed "for the purpose of insuring a continuation of the high moral and ethical standards in the administrative and operative practices of the International Union and its subordinate bodies, and to further strengthen the democratic processes and appeal procedures within the Union as they affect the rights and privileges of individual members and subordinate bodies." *See*: UAW International Union Constitution Article 23, § 1.
- 217. At no time during the UAW's internal appellate procedure did Weills or Sheets, acting on behalf of all members of the Wrangler Paint Shop, have knowledge of any allegation that Holiefield or any member of his team accepted bribes to take company-friendly positions during bargaining negotiations generally or with respect to the status of the Wrangler Paint shop in particular. Neither Weills, Sheets nor any Plaintiff raised a specific allegation of bribery against Holiefield or anyone else during the course of the lengthy internal UAW appellate process.
- 218. The UAW International Union rejected Weills' and Sheets' appeal at all stages, choosing to credit the version of events presented by Holiefield's team from the UAW International Union Chrysler Department: generally, that they negotiated in good faith, reached the best possible deal under the circumstances and had the authority to lock the UAW Local 12

out of negotiations. In general, the UAW International Union, at all levels of the appellate process, deferred to the judgment of Holiefield's team from the UAW International Union Chrysler Department.

- 219. During the course of the UAW internal appellate procedure, the officials of the UAW International Union involved in the November 2012 bargaining described above abandoned all pretext that provisions of any bargaining agreement prohibited Plaintiffs from continuing to work in the Wrangler Paint Shop due to their status as Chrysler retirees. Instead, these officials now claimed that they attempted to negotiate for Plaintiffs to remain employed in Wrangler Paint Shop, but Chrysler steadfastly and apparently irrationally refused to continue to employ Plaintiffs under any circumstances.
- 220. Plaintiffs were unable to obtain any relief concerning their termination, despite exhausting all available remedies available under the applicable collective bargaining agreements and the UAW's internal procedures.

### Federal indictments reveal that UAW International Union executives accepted bribes from Chrysler executives and prospective employees

- 221. General Holiefield died in March 2015.
- 222. On July 26, 2017, a federal investigation into the Chrysler Department of the UAW International Union became public knowledge when a felony indictment was unsealed in the Eastern District of Michigan against Alphons Iacobelli and Monica Morgan, as well as criminal charges by information against Jerome Durden.
- 223. As set forth above, Iacobelli was Chrysler's Vice President of Employee Relations during the fall 2012 negotiations concerning the status of the UAW members in the Wrangler Paint Shop.
  - 224. Morgan was Holiefield's girlfriend, and later wife, prior to Holiefield's death.

- 225. Durden was an accountant and subordinate of Iacobelli at Chrysler.
- 226. In general, the July 2017 indictment and surrounding press coverage revealed that Iacobelli diverted millions of dollars from Chrysler from a joint UAW-Chrysler National Training Center to the individual pockets Holiefield, his family and close associates.
  - 227. Many of these funds were diverted though sham businesses operated by Morgan.
- 228. Among other things, Iacobelli caused Chrysler to pay for at least \$1.2 million of personal travel, designer cloths, furniture and jewelry. In addition, Iacobelli caused Chrysler funds to be diverted from the National Training Center to pay off Holiefield's and Morgan's \$262,219 personal mortgage.
  - 229. Such payments violate, among other laws, the NLRA at 29 U.S.C. § 186.
- 230. As noted above, in 2012, Holiefield was the top UAW International Union official responsible for managing a national collective bargaining relationship with Chrysler involving hundreds of thousands of UAW members.
- 231. Similarly, in 2012, Iacobelli was the top-ranking Chrysler executive responsible for bargaining with the UAW.
- 232. Iacobelli caused illegal payments of Chrysler funds to be made to Holiefield and other officials of the UAW International Union's Chrysler Department in exchange for company-friendly treatment in collective bargaining negotiations at the expense of UAW members.
- 233. As set forth above, Holiefield and his team took control of bargaining concerning the status of the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop in a manner contrary to the UAW Constitution, and longstanding past practice, by locking the affected employees and UAW Local 12 out of the negotiations. Having done so, Holiefield and his team negotiated a company friendly agreement at the expense of Plaintiffs.

- 234. The 2012 negotiations between Plaintiffs and Iacobelli concerning Plaintiffs' job status were influenced by bribery.
- 235. In January 2018, Iacobelli pleaded guilty to bribing Holiefield and his team to take company-friendly negotiating positions during collective bargaining.
- 236. Press reports immediately following the July 2017 indictments also revealed that members of the UAW International Union's Chrysler Department were under investigation for "selling jobs," or accepting cash payments of a few thousand dollars, from prospective employees for assistance in finding UAW jobs in Chrysler plants.
  - 237. James Hardy is under investigation for selling jobs at Chrysler plants.
- 238. As set forth above, Plaintiffs were replaced by new UAW hires on an almost onefor-one basis following their termination in November 2012.
- 239. Despite widespread interest from local Toledo residents, a suspiciously large number of individuals who were hired to replace Plaintiffs relocated from Detroit to accept positions in the Wrangler Paint Shop. Some such individuals have acknowledged "buying" their jobs.
- 240. Thus, Holiefield and his team from the Chrysler Department of the UAW International Union had two separate unlawful motives directly adverse to Plaintiffs at the time that they bargained away Plaintiffs' jobs with Iacobelli and Chrysler. First, Holiefield and his team had accepted bribes, and hoped to accept additional bribes, from Chrysler to take company-friendly positions at the expense of the UAW members that they represented. Second, members of the Chrysler Department of the UAW International Union had developed a lucrative side business of selling Chrysler jobs. By acting in the manner described above, these officials created over 70 open positions that could be sold.

#### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 241. Plaintiffs repeat and incorporate herein all previously pleaded averments.
- 242. Plaintiffs DeShetler and Wesley bring this action pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23 on behalf of the Class defined as follows:

All individuals who retired from Chrysler between 2004 and 2007 and were terminated from the Wrangler Paint Shop on or about November 30, 2012.

- 243. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs believe that there are approximately 73 such individuals.
- 244. The members of the Class can be identified through the review of business records in the possession of Chrysler, the UAW International Union and UAW Local 12.
- 245. There are common questions of fact and law affecting all class members, including, among others:
  - a. Whether any collective bargaining agreement can reasonably be interpreted as
    prohibiting Plaintiffs and members of the class from continued employment after
    Chrysler purported to take direct control of the Wrangler Paint Shop in 2012;
  - b. Whether Chrysler and the UAW International Union reasonably interpreted the applicable master and local collective bargaining agreements, as informed by the years-long course of dealing between the company, UAW International Union and UAW Local 12, as permitting Chrysler to engineer a situation where all of the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop were "laid off" by Gonzalez and considered for "rehire" by Chrysler;
  - c. Whether the UAW International Union acted in good faith when it locked its
    membership and local union out of negotiations concerning the status of its
    membership working in the Wrangler Paint Shop;

- d. Whether Chrysler paid, and the UAW International Union Chrysler Department accepted, bribes in order to take company-friendly negotiation-positions at the expense of UAW members, including members of the Class;
- e. Whether the UAW International Union Chrysler Department bargained in good faith on behalf of members of the Class in the fall of 2012;
- f. Whether officials in the UAW International Union Chrysler Department accepted bribes to fill the jobs vacated by Plaintiffs and members of the Class in the Wrangler Paint Shop;
- g. Whether Chrysler discriminated on the basis of age;
- h. Whether there is any underlying business justification for Chrysler's decision not to consider Plaintiffs and members of the Class for rehire; and
- Whether the releases procured from Plaintiffs and members of the Class can be enforced as a matter of fact and law.
- 246. The Plaintiffs' claims are typical of all members of the Class as they were terminated as the result of the same collective bargaining agreement, at the same time and for the same pretextual reasons as members of the Class.
- 247. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent the interests of members of the Class.
- 248. Both Plaintiffs and their counsel meet the adequacy requirements of Fed.R.Civ.P. 23.
- 249. Plaintiffs' interests are not antagonistic to other members of the Class and are, in fact, similar with respect to Chrysler and the UAW International Union. Plaintiffs' interests are identical to those of the members of the Class.

- 250. Plaintiffs' legal counsel has a time-honored reputation for competency, experience and skill in handling complex litigation, including class actions. Their counsel's ability to skillfully litigate cases such as the present case is well-documented. Their counsel has and will continue to dedicate high levels of skill and dedication to the vigorous prosecution of this class action litigation.
- 251. A class action is a superior method of resolution to the other available methods for a fair, efficient and just resolution of this controversy.
- 252. The expense and burden of individual litigation are impediments to Class members seeking redress for the wrongful conduct alleged.
- 253. This action is maintainable under Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(b)(3) because common questions of fact and law, as outlined above, predominate over questions affecting only individual class members, which focus almost exclusively on the amount of damages owed in the form of back wages, front wages and other compensation, including compensatory damages, punitive damages and interest.
- 254. A class action is a superior method to other mechanisms available. The amount in controversy with respect to each individual member of the Class is relatively modest and the prosecution of separate actions is comparatively costly.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Violations of the LMRA Against All Defendants)

- 255. Plaintiffs repeat and incorporate herein all previously pleaded averments.
- 256. Plaintiffs bring their first cause of action against all Defendants pursuant to Section 301 of the LMRA, codified at 29 U.S.C. § 185.
- 257. As set forth above, Chrysler first induced Plaintiffs to "retire" from Chrysler and begin employment with a nominally independent contractor in a scheme that violated the

applicable master agreements concerning the use of independent contractors in company facilities with the assurance that they would be treated as Chrysler employees. Chrysler then directly assumed the role of successor pursuant to Exhibit 4, including the local seniority system.

- 258. Chrysler then terminated Plaintiffs in violation of the applicable master and local bargaining agreements between Chrysler and the UAW. Specifically, Chrysler refused to recognize the seniority that Plaintiffs had accumulated as Chrysler employees pursuant to Exhibit 4 and the applicable master agreements.
  - 259. As set forth herein, Chrysler discriminated against Plaintiffs on the basis of age.
- 260. Moreover, as set forth above, Chrysler unlawfully paid bribes to executives of the UAW International Union to take company-friendly positions during collective bargaining negotiations, including those leading to Plaintiffs' termination in November 2012. By doing so, Chrysler negotiated with Plaintiffs' labor union in bad faith and in breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing inherent in all contracts, including collective bargaining agreements.
- 261. Plaintiffs sought to prosecute grievances pursuant to the applicable collective bargaining agreements, but the UAW International Union refused to process their grievances beyond any stage over which it had discretion.
- 262. In the alternative, any further attempt to prosecute grievances by Plaintiffs would have been futile under the circumstances described above.
- 263. Plaintiffs have exhausted all internal union procedures with respect to their terminations.
- 264. In the alternative, any further attempt to utilize internal union procedures by Plaintiffs would have been futile under the circumstances described above.

- 265. As set forth above, the UAW International Union acted in an arbitrary, discriminatory and dishonest manner in its duty to represent Plaintiffs in the bargaining process that resulted in their termination in November 2012.
- 266. Through its arbitrary, discriminatory and bad-faith conduct, the UAW International Union has breached its duty of fair representation to their members, including Plaintiffs.
- 267. Due to the UAW International Union's breach, Plaintiffs have sustained damages. Specifically, Plaintiffs would not have been terminated in violation of the master and local bargaining agreement, or in an unlawful and discriminatory manner, as set forth above.
- 268. Plaintiffs bring this hybrid action against Chrysler and the UAW International Union to recover all legal and equitable relief available, including reinstatement, an award of back pay, an award of front pay, consequential and compensatory damages, punitive damages, costs and reasonable attorney's fees.
- 269. Had the UAW International Union appropriately represented Plaintiffs, this action would not be necessary. Plaintiffs are entitled to recover their costs and reasonable attorneys' fees as an element of actual damages as a result of the UAW International Union's breach.
- 270. To the extent that Defendants seek to rely on releases of claims purported executed by Plaintiffs in 2012, such releases are void under the doctrines of fraud, duress, illegality and undue influence.
- 271. As described above, Plaintiffs were unable to discover the UAW International Union's breach of its duty of fair representation until the federal investigation became public knowledge in July 2017. As set forth above, Plaintiffs had no way of knowing that Chrysler

paid, and executives in the UAW International Union had accepted, bribes to act against their interest until this investigation became public.

## SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Independent Duty of Fair Representation against UAW Defendants)

- 272. Plaintiffs repeat and incorporate herein all previously pleaded averments.
- 273. In the alternative to a hybrid claim against Chrysler and the UAW Defendants pursuant to Section 301 of the LMRA, codified at 29 U.S.C. § 185, Plaintiffs bring a claim against the UAW Defendants for a breach of their independent duty of fair representation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 159(a).
- 274. To the extent that the Court concludes that Plaintiffs fail to state a colorable claim against Chrysler because no collective bargaining agreement is applicable to Plaintiffs, or that Plaintiffs have not sufficiently identified specific provisions of collective bargaining agreements that Chrysler violated, the UAW Defendants breached their independent duty of fair representation.
- 275. By accepting bribes from Chrysler in order to take company-friendly positions in the bargaining process concerning Plaintiffs, the UAW Defendants violated multiple fiduciary duties to Plaintiffs.
- 276. Moreover, as set forth above, the UAW Defendants repeatedly assured Plaintiffs and the leadership of UAW Local 12 that the arrangement described herein involving nominally "independent contractors" would have no adverse affect on the UAW members working in the Wrangler Paint Shop. In fact, if the Court accepts the premise that Plaintiffs were not subject to any agreements, the UAW Defendants induced Plaintiffs to "retire" with the promise that they would continue to be protected by collective bargaining agreements between the UAW and Chrysler and that they would be "taken care of" if they participated in the unconventional

scheme outlined herein, but ultimately left Plaintiffs without any collective bargaining protection at all.

- 277. Absent the UAW's breach, Plaintiffs would not have "retired" from Chrysler, would have maintained their considerable seniority and would not have lost their employment in November 2012.
- 278. Had the UAW International Union appropriately represented Plaintiffs, this action would not be necessary. Plaintiffs are entitled to recover their costs and reasonable attorneys' fees as an element of actual damages as a result of the UAW International Union's breach.
- 279. To the extent that Defendants seek to rely on releases of claims purported executed by Plaintiffs in 2012, such releases are void under the doctrines of fraud, duress, illegality and undue influence.
- 280. As described above, Plaintiffs were unable to discover the UAW International Union's breach of its duty of fair representation until the federal investigation became public knowledge in July 2017. As set forth above, Plaintiffs had no way of knowing that executives in the UAW International Union had accepted bribes to act against their interest until this investigation became public.

# THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Age Discrimination Pursuant to O.R.C. § 4112.14 as to Chrysler)

- 281. Plaintiffs repeat and incorporate herein all previously pleaded averments.
- 282. As set forth above, Plaintiffs herein are all long-serving employees of Chrysler and members of the UAW. By 2006, each Plaintiff had accumulated sufficient seniority to participate in Chrysler's unconventional plan to operate the Toledo Supplier Park and "retire" from Chrysler, begin collecting their pension and start working for a nominally independent third-party supplier.

- 283. In 2012, each Plaintiff was over the age of forty.
- 284. In 2012, each Plaintiff was working in the Wrangler Paint Shop, satisfactorily performing his or her job function and qualified to continue to do so.
- 285. In November 2012, each Plaintiff was terminated from his or her employment under the circumstances described above.
- 286. At the time that Plaintiffs were terminated, Chrysler systemically retained substantially younger workers hired between 2006 and 2012.
- 287. Following Plaintiffs' termination in 2012, Chrysler systematically replaced them with substantially younger workers.
- 288. Moreover, the termination of Plaintiffs had no appreciable effect on the overall employment in the Wrangler Paint Shop. As Chrysler intended, Plaintiffs were replaced on a nearly one-for-one basis by UAW members who were "new hires" into the Wrangler Paint Shop.
- 289. Chrysler's conduct as described herein constitutes discrimination on the basis of age.
- 290. Chrysler lacked any legitimate alternative business reason for not continuing Plaintiffs' employment. Indeed, according to the UAW International Union, Chrysler simply refused to continue Plaintiffs' employment under any circumstances and at any rate of pay. Instead, Chrysler simply insisted on terminating Plaintiffs due to their status as older retirees.
- 291. To the extent that Chrysler seeks to offer an alternative basis for Plaintiffs' termination, such explanation would be mere pretext.
- 292. Plaintiffs bring their second claim for relief pursuant to O.R.C. § 4112.14 against Chrysler. In the alternative, Plaintiffs bring their second claim for relief under any provision of Ohio law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age.

- 293. To the extent that Chrysler seeks to rely on releases of claims purported executed by Plaintiffs in 2012, such releases are void under the doctrines of fraud, duress, illegality and undue influence.
- 294. To the extent that Chrysler contends that Plaintiffs have or had available avenues to arbitrate their discharge, such arbitration would be futile due to the UAW International Union's failure to represent them in good faith as described above.

WHEREFORE, the individual Plaintiffs named above and Plaintiffs DeShetler and Wesley on behalf of themselves and others similarly situated, demand judgment against Defendants, jointly and severally, in an amount to be determined by a jury and further demand judgment as follows:

- A. That this Court, as soon as practicable, certify the Class defined herein and appoint the undersigned counsel to represent it;
- B. For injunctive and declaratory relief ordering their reinstatement;
- C. For damages in an amount to be determined by a jury, including back pay, front pay, compensatory damages, punitive damages and whatever additional monetary relief may be available in law and equity;
- D. For an award of reasonable attorney's fees, costs and expert witness fees; and
- E. For whatever additional legal and equitable relief may be available under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John T. Murray

John T. Murray (008793) Direct Dial: (419) 624-3125

jotm@murrayandmurray.com

Leslie O. Murray (0081496)

lom@murrayandmurray.com

Michael J. Stewart (0082257)

stewart@murrayandmurray.com

MURRAY & MURRAY CO., L.P.A.

111 East Shoreline Drive

Sandusky, OH 44870

Facsimile: (419) 624-0707

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

#### **JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiffs hereby demand trial by jury as to all issues.

/s/ John T. Murray

John T. Murray (008793)

MURRAY & MURRAY CO., L.P.A.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify a copy of the foregoing was served by the Court's electronic case filing system to all t hose participating on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

/s/ John T. Murray

John T. Murray (008793)

MURRAY & MURRAY CO., L.P.A.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs